

## Gravity Drop Box Leaves Piles Of Chaff

Leaving chaff and seed in piles on a field is a good thing if you have cattle to turn loose after harvest. It's especially good if you can trap the chaff without spending a lot of money to do so. Ken Schumacher had the cattle and an idea for a cheap trap.

"I wanted to be able to spread the straw back on the land, yet give the cows something to eat," says the Saskatchewan farmer.

What Schumacher ended up with was thousands of 24 by 50-in. piles on about 500-600 acres. Each contains 10-15 lbs. of chaff and seeds. The secret is a gravity-powered drop box that tripped when full. Mounted behind the sieve and in front of the straw spreader, it catches the chaff, but doesn't interfere with the straw.

He built a two-sided box with a sheet of

plywood about 58 in. wide, to match the size of the sieve opening, and 30 in. deep. A frame was made from 1 by 1-in. tubing, and the 10-in. sides were made with plywood.

A shaft was attached to bottom of the box and about 6 in. from its front. The shaft rides in two pillow block bearings. The bearings are each bolted to pieces of angle iron that are bolted to the bottom of the combine axle and extend back and parallel to the ground.

A large block of wood, attached to the bottom of the collection plate and ahead of the shaft, serves as a counterweight to the board. A 2-in. steel pipe about 62 in. long is attached opposite the block and extends across the board to rest on the angle irons. It serves both as a weight and as a stop to keep the empty box in collection position.



Chaff catcher is shown ready to be filled (left) and just unloaded.

"As the box fills, the weight of the chaff and the board exceed the counterweights, and the chaff drops in a pile," explains Schumacher. "When it empties, it drops back into position. A chain limits how far it can

tip so I don't need to worry about it if I am backing the combine up."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ken Schumacher, Box 549, Delisle, Sask., Canada S0L 0P0 (ph 306 493-2308).

## Convert Your Trailer Jack To Hydraulic

You can get rid of the hassle of cranking trailer jacks with an Easy Lift conversion kit from Circle S Trailers, Inc., that'll fit a hydraulic motor to most standard manual trailer jacks.

"Everybody needs some help cranking things up and down, especially as they grow older," says J.L. Sharp, Circle S.

Sharp points out that some trailers are very hard to crank. The \$795 kit comes with a choice of 1 or 2-speed hydraulic motor, hydraulic pump and lines. All that is needed is a 12-volt battery and a cable.

"Installation is easy," suggests Sharp. "I can install one in about an hour, but anyone with any mechanical knowledge and some tools should be able to do it in two hours or less. We've been selling them for three years and never had a failure yet."

Sharp suggests wiring the battery into the light harness on the trailer to keep it powered up. "When we get a call, 99.9 percent of the time it is a bad battery or connections," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Circle S Trailers, Inc., 7435 E. State Hwy. E, Fair Grove, Mo. 65648 (ph 417 759-2606 or 888 999-2606).



Hydraulic-powered attachment turns any hand-cranked trailer jack with ease, says J.L. Sharp.

## 3-Pt. Picker Perfect For Plot Bait

Corn for deer feeding plots doesn't have to be clean. It doesn't have to have whole kernels. And you sure don't need a \$300,000 combine to harvest it.

"I had a five-row corn head and a grain table off a Gleaner M3," says Mooring. "I decided to build a 3-pt. mounted, one-row snapper head out of it."

He used two snouts and a single row unit from the corn head and mounted it on one side of a 2-wheeled axle he took off an old feed wagon that attaches to a 3-pt. hitch.

"I can tow it on the wheels and pick at that ground level or use the 3-pt. hitch to raise it to ear height," says Mooring. "A hydraulic top link on the 3-pt. lets me adjust the snapper head angle."

A pto drive unit powers everything but the auger. When corn comes off the header, it lands on a kicker wheel that pushes it back into a trough. As the corn drops, air from a fan mounted to the side of the trough hits it, blowing away most of the loose trash. The trough funnels the corn down to an auger that screws the corn up and into a trailing cart. If the auger grinds up the ears a little, it doesn't matter, given its end use.

"The auger came off the combine's grain tank and is powered by a hydraulic motor," says Mooring. "When I come to the end of the row, I just shut off the auger until I finish turning around."

A hydraulic cylinder on the auger lets him



Johnny Mooring built this 3-pt. mounted, one-row snapper head out of a 5-row corn head and a grain table off a Gleaner M3.

adjust it to clear the cart as he lifts and lowers the header.

"I use it to pick for the neighbors," says Mooring. The only problem is that he has to run down a row when getting into a field. He is now in the process of building a mounted 2-row snapper head that will let him pull into a field and pick anywhere without running down any corn.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Johnny Mooring, P.O. Box 163, Snow Hill, N.C. 28580 (ph 252 747-8772).



Arnie Shirley sells liquid-hauling trailers in 500 and 1,000-gal. sizes.

## Bulk Liquid Trailers Haul Fuel, Fertilizer, And More

New combines and tractors can suck up to 100 gallons of fuel at a fill. That means pickup-mounted fuel tanks just won't do the job any more.

Arnie Shirley is a farmer and also sells Friesen seed tenders and handling equipment. His own needs got him started thinking about the need for bigger bulk liquid tenders.

"I knew I needed one, and I figured others did too," says Shirley.

His company, Bluff Ridge, Inc., now builds and sells portable tanks. The LT500 holds 500 gal. A 1,000-gal. tender is also available. Both tanks are fabricated from 10 ga. steel with internal baffles.

The LT500 tank is mounted on a 5,000-lb.

tandem trailer with fenders, light kit and ball hitch. It comes standard with a 12-volt, 20-gpm fuel grade pump with meter and a 15-ft., 1-in. dia. hose.

"It can be equipped with other types of pumps as well, if the tender is to be used for crop protection chemicals or liquid fertilizer," says Shirley. "It can also be ordered with a sump drain if desired."

The LT500 is priced at \$4,950, while the LT1000 is priced at \$8,400.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bluff Ridge, Inc., 2428 Bluff Road, Hamburg, Iowa 51640 (ph 515 571-2710 or 877 468-2022; cmeyer@bluffridgeinc.com; www.bluffridgeinc.com).

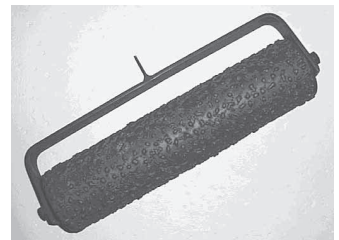
## Textured Roller Gives Concrete The "Look Of Salt"

Pressing rock salt into freshly laid concrete and washing it away later with a pressure washer is an attractive way to leave a rough finish on concrete. However, you have to be quick to get the crystals in, and washing it away is time consuming.

Zieger, an Arizona contractor, developed a Salt Roller that has nubs which leave a similar impression to rock salt. Besides being faster than scattering and pressing in the rock salt, the roller leaves a uniform impression over the entire surface.

Simply adjusting the pressure on the roller adjusts the depth of the impressions. The impressions are also more rounded and open at the top than rock salt depressions. That may be one reason users in northern states haven't reported any problems with freeze up and spalling or breakup of the surface.

Zieger's company, Simple Solutions, sells



Salt Roller has nubs that leave a rough finish on freshly laid concrete.

a 7-in. roller for \$110 and a 15-in. roller for \$185, or a set of the two for \$260.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Simple Solutions, P.O. Box 8197, Chandler, Arizona 85246 (ph 877 725-8765; www.saltrollers.com).